

## Tree Committee Minutes – October 14, 2021

Members Present: Maggie Bacon, March Dye, Derith Smith; 2 members of the public were in attendance.

### 1. **Tree Grant.**

Committee members reviewed the DNR grant. Bacon reminded members of the need to document ANY hours spent on tree work (removal, identification, meetings [like this one], paperwork, etc.)

### 2. **Back-up Plan if we do not get the grant.**

Dye felt confident about the number of resources available on web to guide the committee in developing a plan for trees and for volunteers.

### 3. **Tree Inventory (Pros and Cons)**

The cost for the Tree Keeper software is \$2500 per year. More than 800 trees were identified and classified by a certified arborist. Another 104 possible planting sites were identified.

Dye commented the inventory must be kept up to date. Smith commented part of keeping the inventory updated is paying for a certified arborist every few years to re-evaluate the trees. Smith indicated the software can be purchased at a discount if purchasing for 3 years. Dye was hesitant to making that commitment because of concerns related to the Village's commitment to keeping it updated. Smith indicated the discounted price would save the Village \$1200 over the three-year commitment.

Lively discussion took place on decision making process for tree removal. Consensus was the grant, or our own planning document will need to include protocols (including the use of data from the inventory – or some other authoritative source) in determining priorities in terms of tree removal.

### 4. **Tree Budget Request**

\$3000 for tree pruning

\$5000 for tree removal

No discussion on purchase of or planting of new trees.

Public Comment: Linda Payment thanked the committee for its work and expressed interest in future meetings and discussions. Palmer asked about the tree committee working to address a specific invasive species that is becoming prevalent in the Village.

Submitted

Maggie Bacon